URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) According to DESU, an amount of Rs. 2325.32 crores was payable by it to BTPS as on 31.10.1995. This excludes surcharge (interest) on overdue payments.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of answer to Part (a) above.

CBI Report regarding Airbus-320 Deal

1507. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4110 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th August, 1994 and state:

(a) whether the CBI has completed the investigations and submitted its report relating to Airbus-320 deal involving the alleged kickback of about Rs. 250 crores;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) if not, when did the CBI start its investigations, the reasons for the delay and the present position of the case; and

(d) what is the total amount of expenditure incurred so far by Government and the details thereof, on the investigations and on the visits of officials and others abroad in connection with the case?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The investigations by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had started on 29.3.1990. The delay is due to the fact that investigations have to be conducted in various foreign countries like U.S.A., U.K., France, Switzerland, Channel Islands, Nigeria etc. through Letters Rogatory and this procedure is time-consuming due to the complexity of legal procedures involved. While most of the investigations in India have been completed, the investigations abroad are still in progress.

(d) Since the services of the CBI officers engaged in this investigations are also being utilised simultaneously for other investigations/ assignments, the total expenditure on this specific case cannot be worked out precisely. CBI have, however, incurred an expenditure of Rs. 3,29,491 on payment of legal and document translation charges and Rs. 3,79,594 towards foreign tour of their officers (excluding accommodation, which is arranged by the Embassy) in connection with the above case.

Short term Treasury Bills

1508. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the factors underlying the recent spurt in the issuance of short-term treasury bills;

(b) the likely impact on money supply and prices of this spurt; and

(c) whether any revision of export import policies is being contemplated to cope with the enlargement of the fiscal deficit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. EBI-BIPROSAD PAL): (a) The spurt in net issue of ad-hoc treasury bills has arisen basically due to mismatch between Central Government receipts and payments.

(b) R.B.I. credit to Government against these treasury bills is one of the several sources of growth in reserve money which in turn leads to expansion in money supply. The ultimate growth of reserve money depends also on other sources of growth in reserve money like R.B.I. credit to banks and commercial sector and net foreign exchange assets of R.B.I. In spite of the expansion in R.B.I. credit to Government against these bills, money supply growth in the current financial year upto November 10, 1995 is considerably lower at 5.7 per cent as against 13.1 per cent growth in the corresponding period of the last financial year.

Price level in the economy depends on a number of supply and demand factors. Money supply through its effect on credit availability affects the production and supply, while at the same time influencing the aggregate demand. The annual rate of inflation as measured by point to point change in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is also much lower at 8.1 per cent